

## Election Guidelines

**Election Campaigns for:** - the European Parliament across the UK  
- Local Government in England and Northern Ireland

**Polling Day:** 22<sup>ND</sup> May 2014

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## **1. Introduction**

### **1.1 The Election Period and when the Guidelines come into effect.**

**The election period as defined by Parliament will begin twenty five working days before polling day. Please note the following variations\*:**

**The Election Period for the European Election for:**

- UK-wide coverage
- Output within the South West region of England

**begins at 0001 on Friday April 11<sup>th</sup>\***

**The Election Period for the European Election for:**

- coverage within Scotland, Wales or Northern Ireland
- coverage within England EXCEPT the South West Region.

**begins at 0001 on Monday April 14<sup>th</sup>**

**The Election Period for the Local Elections for:**

- UK-wide coverage
- Northern Ireland
- anywhere within England where elections are taking place

**begins at 0001 on April 14<sup>th</sup>**

**In all elections, the Election Period continues until the close of polls at 2200 on May 22<sup>nd</sup>**

**However, election campaigning is likely to begin before the formal election periods and content producers should be sensitive to the need for care in the period between now and then. Advice is available from the Chief Adviser, Politics.**

\* the variations are due to some electoral areas having a different number of Bank Holidays this spring, so the calculation of 25 working days does not lead to the same date everywhere for the beginning of the formal election period.

### **1.2 Elections**

The elections to the European Parliament will be fought on a proportional representation system (party list system in Great Britain, single transferable vote in Northern Ireland). The number of seats at stake in the UK is 73 (an increase of one since 2009):

- England is divided into 9 electoral regions of varying sizes which will elect between 3 and 10 candidates each - a total of 60 seats (1 more – in the West Midlands - than in 2009).

- Scotland is a single electoral area electing 6 candidates
- Wales is a single electoral area electing 4 candidates.

**For detailed guidance on the European Election in Great Britain, see Appendix A - [Click here](#).**

- Northern Ireland is a single electoral area electing 3 candidates

**For detailed guidance on the European Election in Northern Ireland, see Appendix B – [click here](#).**

Local Government Elections in England will be contested by first past the post in approximately 4500 seats in:

-

32 London boroughs (32 all-out)	1,991 seats
36 Metropolitan boroughs (all by one-thirds)	822 seats
74 District Councils (most by one-thirds)	1,266 seats
19 Unitary authorities (most by one thirds)	421 seats

In addition, there are five Mayoral elections, each using the supplementary vote system.

**For detailed guidance on Local Elections in England, see Appendix C – [click here](#).**

In Northern Ireland, 11 new councils are being elected, replacing the old 26 councils. A total of 462 councillors will be elected by STV proportional representation..

**For detailed guidance on Local Elections in Northern Ireland, see Appendix D – [click here](#)**

### 1.3 The Guidelines

There is no area of broadcasting where the BBC's commitment to due impartiality is more closely scrutinised than in reporting election campaigns.

These Guidelines are intended to offer a framework within which journalists:

- can operate in as free and creative an environment as possible,
- deliver to audiences impartial and independent reporting of the campaign, giving fair coverage, rigorous scrutiny and due weight to the policies and campaigns of all parties and candidates..

The BBC is also legally obliged to adopt a Code of Practice with respect to “the participation of candidates at a parliamentary or local government election in items about the constituency or electoral area in question which are included in relevant services during the election period”. This obligation is fulfilled by [Section 4](#) of these Guidelines.

The BBC is also required, under the terms of its Charter and Agreement of 2006 to ensure that political issues are covered with due accuracy and impartiality. These Election Guidelines supplement the Editorial Guidelines (Chapter 4, “Impartiality and Diversity of Opinion” and Chapter 10, “Politics and Public Policy”). They should, in particular, be read in conjunction with the sections in Chapter 10 on [“Reporting UK Election and Referendum Campaigns”](#) and [“Broadcasting During Elections”](#), which say we must ensure that:

- news judgements continue to drive editorial decision making in news based programmes.
- news judgements at election time are made within a framework of democratic debate which ensures that due weight is given to hearing the views and examining and challenging the policies of all parties. Significant smaller parties should also receive some network coverage during the campaign.
- when producing UK-wide output, we are aware of the different political structures in the four nations of the United Kingdom and that they are reflected in the election coverage of each nation.

The Guidelines (and the appendices for these particular elections) are publicly available and the BBC can expect to be held accountable for their implementation during the campaign.

#### **1.4 Who the Guidelines apply to**

It is the responsibility of each editor to ensure that their content producers are aware of how the Guidelines and Appendices (“the Guidelines”) apply to their output.

These Guidelines apply to any programme or material intended for UK audiences, covering any aspect of the elections and to output areas within which elections are taking place.

Any programme which does not usually cover political subjects or normally invite politicians to participate must consult the Chief Adviser Politics before finalising any plans to do so.

Each programme, strand, website or channel must bear in mind the intended location of its audience in applying these Guidelines.

## **2. Mandatory issues and referrals**

### **2.1 During the Election Period:**

- **Any programme which does not usually cover political subjects or normally invite politicians to participate must consult the Chief Adviser Politics before finalising any plans to do so.\***
- **All bids for interviews with party leaders must be referred to the Chief Adviser Politics before parties are approached. Offers of such interviews must also be referred before being accepted.\***
- **Any proposal to use a contribution from a politician without an opportunity for comment or response from other parties must be referred to a senior editorial figure and the Chief Adviser Politics. (see 3.5)**
- **Any proposal to achieve due impartiality over a series of different programmes across a station or channel must be referred to the Chief Adviser, Politics.**
- **The BBC will not commission voting intention polls**
- **Any proposal to commission an opinion poll on politics or any other matter of public policy for any BBC service must be referred to the Chief Adviser Politics. \***
- **There will be no online votes or SMS/text votes attempting to quantify support for a party, a politician or a party political policy issue.**
- **Any proposal to conduct text voting on any political issue that could have a bearing on any of the elections must be discussed with the Chief Adviser, Politics, as well as being referred to the relevant departmental senior editorial figure and ITACU.**
- **The BBC will not broadcast or publish numbers of e-mails, texts or other communications received on either side of any issue connected to the campaign.**

\* referral also mandatory outside election periods.

### **2.2 Polling day**

- **No opinion poll on any issue relating to the election may be published until polling has closed throughout the European Union (ie Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> May).**
- **There will be no coverage of any of the issues directly pertinent to the election campaigns on any BBC outlet until after the polls close in the UK.**
- **It is a criminal offence to broadcast anything about the way in which people have voted in the election while the polls are open in the UK.**

### **3. Due Impartiality in coverage of parties and issues**

#### **3.1 Coverage of the Parties**

To achieve due impartiality, each bulletin, programme or programme strand, as well as online and interactive services, for each election, must ensure that the parties are covered proportionately over an appropriate period, normally across a week. This means taking into account levels of past and current electoral support (see guidance in [Appendices](#)).

Due impartiality should normally be achieved within these categories:

- clips
- interviews/discussions of up to 10 minutes
- longer form programmes

This does not preclude due impartiality from being otherwise achieved within a series of programmes across the station or channel. But such an arrangement needs clear sign-posting and must be referred to the Chief Adviser Politics.

Previous electoral support in equivalent elections must be taken into account when making judgements about the proportionate levels of coverage between parties.

Other factors should be taken into account where appropriate, including evidence of variation in levels of support in more recent elections, changed political circumstances (e.g. new parties or party splits) as well as other evidence of current support, such as robust and consistent trends in opinion polls. The number of candidates a party is standing may also be a factor.

#### **3.2 Impartiality in Programmes**

Daily news magazine programmes should normally achieve proportional and appropriate coverage within the course of each week of the campaign.

This means that each strand (e.g. a drive time show on radio) is responsible for achieving impartiality itself within the week and cannot rely on other outlets at different times of day (e.g. the breakfast show) to do so for it. This does not preclude programmes, in specific circumstances, co-operating to organise joint coverage, thereby achieving due impartiality across the station or channel. But such an arrangement needs clear sign-posting and must be referred to the Chief Adviser, Politics.

Programme strands should avoid individual editions getting badly out of kilter. There may be days when inevitably one party dominates the news agenda, e.g. when party manifestos are launched, but in that case care must be taken to ensure that appropriate coverage is given to other manifesto launches on the relevant days.

The News Channel and television and radio summaries will divide the 24 hour day into blocks and aim to achieve due impartiality across a week's output in each one.

Weekly programmes, or running series within daily sequence programmes, which focus on one party or another, should trail both forward and backwards so that it is clear to the audience that due impartiality is built in over time. In these instances, due impartiality should be achieved over the course of the campaign.

Any programme or content giving coverage to any of the elections must achieve due impartiality overall among parties during the course of the whole campaign.

In all elections, the BBC must take care to prevent candidates being given an unfair advantage, for instance, where a candidate's name is featured through depicting posters or rosettes etc.

Anyone who is in doubt as to how this applies to their own content should contact the Chief Adviser, Politics, for advice.

### **3.3 Coverage of other political issues, Parliaments and Councils in the UK during the Election Period.**

The elections do not happen in isolation and other elected bodies will continue their normal activity during the campaign. Content producers need to comply with the general requirement of due accuracy and due impartiality, aware of the possible influence of any other political coverage on the election campaigns.

This applies to reporting of the Westminster and Scottish Parliaments and Welsh and Northern Ireland Assemblies during the campaign as well as local government business, which will also continue during the election period. These should continue to be covered in the normal way, though any relevant issues relating to the European elections or local government in England or

Northern Ireland which are discussed must be reported with care to maintain due impartiality.

All content producers need to bear in mind which issues are within the remit of the different bodies and ensure it is clear to the audience when stories have a bearing on an election. They also should be alert to other politicians or public figures who are not involved directly in the elections, including ministers and shadow ministers at Westminster, intervening in issues relevant to any of the elections and ensure that due impartiality is maintained.

Where there are other major news stories, special care is needed to ensure that any political element is covered comprehensively, but also reflects the fact that we are in an election period. How this is achieved will depend on the particular circumstances of each case. For example, where there are major stories which fall outside inter-party rivalry, due impartiality may be achieved by allocating more time than would otherwise be given to those politicians most closely involved, to report fully statements that tell the audience what is happening, and, on occasion, to reflect vigorous internal debates within parties on such issues.

### **3.4 Order of Parties**

The order in which parties appear in packages or are introduced in discussions should normally be editorially driven. However, programme makers should take care to ensure they vary this order, where appropriate, so that no fixed pattern emerges in the course of the campaign.

### **3.5 Items which may not require contributions from other parties or candidates**

In exceptional circumstances, comments from candidates can stand alone, without contributions from other candidates or parties, where to use one might appear insensitive or risk the appearance of a media circus. This might include interviews about a personal tragedy, a public disaster, or where the candidate concerned is an eye witness to a news incident. Any proposal to use a comment in this way must be referred to a senior editorial figure and the Chief Adviser, Politics.

## **4. Fairness to Candidates - Code of Practice**

### **4.1 Reports on specific Electoral Areas (Regions/Wards)**

The intention of these guidelines is to encourage vigorous debate in all electoral areas and to give a higher profile to candidates in general without giving unfair advantage to one candidate or party over another.

Candidates or parties declining to take part in reports or debates based on a region or ward cannot, by doing so, effectively exercise a veto over such coverage.

However, this does not weaken in any way the BBC's obligations of fairness in ensuring the audience is informed of all main strands of argument.

Reports or debates about a specific electoral area, such as a council ward, should give due weight to candidates of parties – or independent candidates - who have demonstrated substantial electoral support, or who can demonstrate substantial current support, in that area. This means that if any candidate takes part in an item about that specific electoral area, then each of these other candidates should also be offered the opportunity to take part, or be given similar coverage across a series of reports.

Programmes may decide to use either candidates or party representatives. But if a candidate from one of the parties is invited to take part, the other participants should, where at all possible, also be candidates (see [below 4.3 Welsh and Gaelic Language Services](#)). In exceptional circumstances, if a candidate is genuinely unavailable, the opportunity may be offered instead to a suitable substitute (e.g. party official or agent) but it should normally be made clear to the audience that the missing candidate was invited and why they were unable to take part. If a candidate declines to put forward any representative the item/programme will go ahead without them.

In reports about specific electoral areas where some candidates are appearing, or shorter news pieces which refer only to some candidates, the item should refer – as a minimum - to an online list of all candidates and parties standing (especially in local elections, it is important to ensure an appropriate list exists). If such a report is being broadcast several times on the same channel in a day, the online list of candidates should be referred to on each occasion and, for TV, the list should feature visually at least once. For longer items, especially where not all candidates may be receiving significant coverage, such as debates – or, where there is no online list available for the relevant electoral area - then the candidates should be listed, visually and/or verbally.

Content producers must ensure generally that candidates are not given an unfair advantage; for instance, camera operators should take care where a candidate's name is featured prominently through depicting posters or rosettes etc, or, for instance, where candidates might be appearing in shot with party leaders.

Where candidates have other roles – political or non-political - care should be taken to ensure that they do not gain an unfair advantage in the election campaign over other candidates.

Before the close of nominations, content producers need to ensure due impartiality in regard to contributors who may have expressed an intention or who are expected to stand as a candidate. Reports referring to the list of

candidates before the close of nominations should make it clear that these are “known candidates so far.”

## **4.2 Use of Candidates in issue based packages and phone-ins**

As well as debates or other items using candidates within particular wards or regions, all types of content may use candidates from different regions, councils or wards to discuss together election issues.

When programmes or other items decide to use a candidate in a package or debate, the other participants should, where at all possible, also be candidates in the same election. ([see 4.3 Welsh and Gaelic Language Services](#)).

In order to maintain due impartiality, the choice of parties and candidates represented should be appropriate to the item. The choice of candidate to represent a party will be made on editorial grounds, but care must be taken in the local election campaign to ensure that one candidate is not unduly favoured at the expense of others or that a party spokesperson does not gain disproportionate coverage at the expense of candidates from other parties.

If a candidate is appearing as a national spokesperson, they should not be allowed to gain an unfair advantage over their local opponents by making repeated references to their own area.

This can best be achieved by advising them in advance of the BBC’s due impartiality obligations. If this fails, swift intervention by the presenter of a live programme, or editing before broadcast, will be necessary.

In such issue-based items – including where all the participants are candidates – reasonable references to local examples are allowed, provided they do not cause unfairness for those local candidates who are not appearing.

Callers to phone-ins must be checked to see if they are candidates. They can be encouraged to contribute, though it must be clear to the audience that they are speaking not as ordinary members of the public but as contributors with a political agenda. Care must be taken that over time programmes are not giving undue prominence to one or more parties or undue preference with regard to candidates.

Further advice on use of candidates can be sought from the Chief Adviser, Politics.

## **4.3 Welsh and Gaelic Language Services**

Some politicians in Wales are not Welsh language speakers. In the event that a party is unable to find a Welsh speaker, Radio Cymru and BBC Wales

programmes for S4C may draw both on candidates and other party representatives.

Few politicians are Gaelic speakers. In the event that a party is unable to find a Gaelic speaking candidate, Radio nan Gaidheal and BBC Alba programmes may draw both on candidates and other party representatives

## **5. Online, Social Media and Audience Contributions**

### **5.1 BBC Editorial Content.**

The same guidelines as those for programmes will apply to BBC Editorial content on all bbc.co.uk sites. These will apply to audio and video content as well as text content, e.g. blogs, podcasts and downloads, as well as any social media identified with the BBC, including material that appears on sites operated by third parties.

BBC editorial staff and anyone involved in producing election related content must avoid compromising the BBC's impartiality or bringing the BBC into disrepute by their activities, such as by expressing their own views on political matters, either on personal websites or social media, eg personal Twitter accounts.

### **5.2 Audience contributions**

Audience contributions offer immediacy and interactivity to the BBC's output both broadcast and on the web. These contributions are an expression of opinion and are not an indication of the weight of opinion on one side or another of a question. The range selected for inclusion must be chosen to achieve due impartiality, not just by the weight of audience activity.

Audience contributions may come by text, social media message or email, or some other interactivity mechanism, including "vox pop". They may be unsolicited, or they may arise from calls to action, in either broadcast output or online. However we receive them, content producers should be rigorous about establishing the origins of materials offered as audience contributions and take responsibility for their authenticity. It may be necessary to verify that a contribution apparently from an individual in the public eye is genuine. Where such contributions come from candidates, that must be clearly identified.

We must not seek to achieve what might be considered "artificial" impartiality by giving a misleading account of the weight of opinion. All web pages prompting debate on the election will be actively hosted and properly moderated to encourage a wide range of views. Those parts of the BBC's online presence which do not normally engage in political issues should seek advice from the Chief Adviser, Politics, before doing so.

During the Election Period, we must not broadcast or publish numbers of contributions received on any campaign issue to estimate support for any side or party.

If contributions are edited for length, care should be taken to ensure that the contributor's opinions are fairly and accurately represented.

Content producers should be particularly alert to organised campaigns or lobbying by parties, pressure groups, candidates or people acting on their behalf. If mass mailings or other organised lobbying is suspected during the Election Period, contributors may be asked to provide contact details for verification purposes. The [bbc.co.uk](http://bbc.co.uk) escalation strategy must be activated immediately, and it may be necessary to, for example, put a message board into pre-moderation or read only mode.

There will be no online votes attempting to quantify support for a party, politician or policy issue during the election period, nor should other quantitative methods, such as a count of the number of texts or social media contributions, be used to assess the level of support.

Producers must ensure that text votes are not translated into anything that could be construed either as a representation of public opinion as a whole, or the BBC's opinion. Any proposal to conduct text voting on any political issue that could have a bearing on the elections must be discussed with the Chief Adviser, Politics, as well as being referred to the relevant departmental senior editorial figure and ITACU.

Journalists and moderators will have to make fine judgements between remarks that constitute robust debate and personal abuse. The general rule of thumb should be if we would not broadcast it on radio or TV, it should not be online. Filters for harm and offence and personal abuse will operate as usual, but they should not be relied on as a substitute for effective moderation.

Unless specifically hosting election discussions, non-news sites should direct users who want to discuss the election in message boards or comments to appropriate areas of the news site such as political blogs or relevant news articles. All election-related discussion areas on [bbc.co.uk](http://bbc.co.uk) must have appropriate moderation, filtering, hosting and escalation in place.

### **5.3 Material from parties or candidates**

BBC News Online will not normally link to election-related material on the websites either of political parties or individual candidates, unless there is an editorial justification (e.g. a row caused by a prominent figure publishing policy on his/her website contradicting the manifesto on the party's website) and then it will be promoted only for a limited period and mindful of any impartiality issues. Any such links will depend on sites not giving grounds for concern

regarding breaches of the BBC harm and offence guidelines or the law e.g. defamation or incitement to racial hatred.

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/editorialguidelines/page/guidelines-harm-introduction/>

Any speeches or other material published by or contributed by candidates or parties which are carried in full or in part must be selected on news value, while bearing in mind that due impartiality requires that an appropriate range of such material is carried.

## **6. Polls and other tests of opinion**

Section 6 of the Election Guidelines should, where appropriate, be read in conjunction with Chapter 10 of Editorial Guidelines and the Editorial Policy Guidance “Opinion Polls, Surveys, Questionnaires, Votes, Straw Polls”, available on the [Editorial Policy website](#).

### **6.1 Reporting Polls**

During the campaign our reporting of opinion polls should take into account three key factors:

- they are part of the story of the campaign and audiences should, where appropriate, be informed about them;
- context is essential, and we must ensure the accuracy and appropriateness of the language used in reporting them;
- polls can be wrong - there are real dangers in only reporting the most “newsworthy” polls – i.e. those which, on a one-off basis, show dramatic movement.

So, the general rules and guidance about reporting polls need to be scrupulously followed. They are:

- not to lead a news bulletin or programme simply with the results of a voting intention poll;
- not to headline the results of a voting intention poll unless it has prompted a story which itself warrants a headline and reference to the poll’s findings is necessary to make sense of it;
- not to rely on the interpretation given to a poll’s results by the organisation or publication which commissioned it, but to come to our own view by looking at the questions, the results and the trend;
- to report the findings of voting intentions polls in the context of trend. The trend may consist of the results of all major polls over a period or may be

limited to the change in a single pollster's findings. Poll results which defy trends without convincing explanation should be treated with particular scepticism and caution;

- not to use language which gives greater credibility to the polls than they deserve: polls “suggest” but never “prove” or even “show”;
- to report the expected margin of error if the gap between the contenders is within the margin. On television and online, graphics should always show the margin of error;
- to report the organisation which carried out the poll and the organisation or publication which commissioned it; (eg “a ComRes poll for the BBC” – not “a BBC poll”).

Take particular care with newspaper reviews. Individual polls should not be the lead item in a newspaper review and should always be reported with a sentence of context (e.g. “that’s rather out of line with other polls this week”).

No opinion poll on any subject relating to politics or the election may be published **until Sunday *check*, when polls have closed throughout Europe.**

## 6.2 Commissioning Polls

The BBC does not commission voting intention opinion polls during election periods. Editorial Guidelines say “any proposal to commission an opinion poll on politics or any other matter of public policy for any BBC service must be referred to the Chief Adviser Politics”. Care must be taken to ensure that any poll commissioned by the BBC is not used to suggest a BBC view on a particular policy or issue. A poll may be commissioned to help inform the audience’s understanding of a current controversy, but it should not be used to imply BBC intervention in a current controversy.

## 6.3 Vox Pops

The value of vox pops to programmes is to allow different sides of an issue in question to be expressed through the voices of the man and woman in the street. But the context should always make it clear that they are an expression of an argument, not an indication of the weight of opinion on either side. It follows that special care must be taken with vox pops during an election campaign, for instance, to give consideration to the location in which they are recorded and to edit them in such a way as to ensure different aspects of the issue are covered.

## 6.4 Emails

The same principle applies to all e-mails we broadcast. E-mails offer immediacy and interactivity to many programmes, but they too are an expression of opinion, not an indication of the weight of opinion on one side or the other of a question. The range of emails selected for broadcast must reflect due impartiality, not the weight of those we receive.

Content producers should be particularly alert to organised e-mail campaigns by parties and pressure groups. If mass mailings are suspected during the Election Period, e-mail contributors may be asked to include their address and telephone number so that checks can be run purely for that purpose.

During the Election Period, we will not broadcast or publish numbers of e-mails received on either side of any issue connected to the campaign.

## **6.5 SMS/Text Messaging**

Similarly, programme-makers should be as rigorous about establishing the origins of material derived from text messages as they are about material from other sources. We should carefully scrutinize texts relating to the elections before using them. Just as with a phone in, producers must take appropriate steps to ensure the veracity of the message e.g. if a text message is received that appears to be from a person in the public eye, the programme should check the source before publishing it on air/online. Checks could include calling the user back to ask for further verification.

If the programme decides to edit a text message for length, care should be taken to ensure the sender's opinion is still fairly and accurately presented.

Producers must ensure that text votes are not translated into anything that could be construed either as a representation of public opinion as a whole, or the BBC's opinion. Any proposal to conduct text voting on any political issue that could have a bearing on any of the elections must be discussed with the Chief Adviser, Politics, as well as being referred to the relevant departmental senior editorial figure and ITACU. (As with commissioned polls, the BBC will not conduct SMS/text votes on voting intention).

## **6.6 Audience Programmes**

Any programme covering elections and planning to use a live audience should consult the Chief Adviser Politics to discuss the selection of the audience and how to achieve due impartiality. All such procedures must stand up to public scrutiny.

## **7. Party Leader Interviews**

With the exception of brief newsgathering interviews gathered on news value on the day, all bids for party leader interviews must be referred to the Chief Adviser Politics before parties are approached. Unsolicited offers should not be accepted without consultation with senior managers and a reference to the Chief Adviser Politics.

## **8. Polling Day**

There will be no coverage of any of the election campaigns on polling day, from 6am until polls close at 10pm on TV, radio or [bbc.co.uk](http://bbc.co.uk). However, online sites will not have to remove archive reports. Coverage will be restricted to factual accounts with nothing which could be construed as influencing the ballots.

**No opinion poll on any issue relating to politics or the election may be published until after the polls have closed throughout the European Union.**

Whilst the polls are open, it is a criminal offence to broadcast anything about the way in which people have voted in that election.

## **9. Complaints Handling**

Complaints will be handled at the appropriate level from programme editors upwards. The aim is to ensure that whether a complaint has come via BBC Information, direct to a programme or to a correspondent or individual journalist, from a politician or member of the public (who may or may not be a political activist), from a senior party official or an individual candidate, the BBC's response is consistent, robust and swift. For that reason, normally, on first receiving a formal complaint, details should be taken and referred to the appropriate person before any initial response – other than a timescale - is given to the complainant.

Anyone requiring further advice on the application of these guidelines should consult the Chief Adviser Politics:

**Ric Bailey: internal: 02 81805  
mobile: 07889 852195  
or email: [ric.bailey@bbc.co.uk](mailto:ric.bailey@bbc.co.uk)**

**APPENDIX A****European Parliamentary Elections in Great Britain 2014:  
England, Scotland and Wales.****Ai Party Coverage**

The level of coverage given to political parties in each electoral area should reflect levels of past and/or current electoral support. In considering this, the following factors should be taken into account:

their performance at the last equivalent election (i.e. the 2009 European election) in terms of representation and share of the vote.

their performance in subsequent elections, where relevant

other evidence of current electoral support

the number of candidates they are fielding in the election

**Aii Past Results**

These are the results for the leading parties at the 2009 European election in different electoral areas: (see Avii for full results)

**England - 2009 European Election**

<b>England</b>	<b>Votes 09</b>	<b>%</b>	<b>MEP</b>
Conservative	3,867,407	29.0	23
Labour	2,013,055	15.1	10
Lib Dem	1,880,493	14.1	10
UKIP	2,352,853	17.6	12
Green	1,185,143	8.9	2
BNP	879,310	6.6	2
Others	1,169,639	8.8	
Total votes cast	13,347,900		<b>59</b>
Turnout		37.0	

**Scotland – 2009 European Election**

<b>Scotland</b>	<b>Votes 09</b>	<b>%</b>	<b>MEP</b>
Conservative	185,794	16.8	1
Labour	229,853	20.8	2
Lib Dem	127,038	11.5	1
SNP	321,007	29.1	2
UKIP	57,788	5.2	
Green	80,442	7.3	
Scottish Socialist	10,404	0.9	
BNP	27,174	2.5	
Others	65,012	5.9	
Total votes cast	1,104,512		<b>6</b>
Turnout		28.5	

**Wales - 2009 European Election**

<b>Wales</b>	<b>Votes 09</b>	<b>%</b>	<b>MEP</b>
Conservative	145,193	21.2	1
Labour	138,852	20.3	1
Lib Dem	73,082	10.7	
Plaid Cymru	126,702	18.5	1
UKIP	87,585	12.8	1
Green	38,160	5.6	
BNP	37,114	5.4	
Others	37,832	5.5	
Total votes cast	684,520		<b>4</b>
Turnout		30.4	

**Great Britain - 2009 European Election**

(England, Scotland, Wales – combined)

<b>Great Britain</b>	<b>Votes 09</b>	<b>%</b>	<b>MEP</b>
Conservative	4,198,394	27.7	25
Labour	2,381,760	15.7	13
Lib Dem	2,080,613	13.7	11
Plaid Cymru	126,702	0.8	1
SNP	321,007	2.1	2
UKIP	2,498,226	16.5	13
Green	1,303,745	8.6	2
BNP	943,598	6.2	2
Others	1,282,887	8.5	
Total votes cast	15,136,932		<b>69</b>
Turnout		33.4	

**Aiii Party Coverage for broadcasts across the UK:**

Where coverage relates purely to the European Election or matters decided in the European Parliament – and taking account of the factors set out in Ai - the the following parties will receive similar levels of coverage:

Conservative, UKIP, Labour and Lib Dems,.

The Green Party of England and Wales and the British National Party won significant support and representation and should receive some coverage, proportionate to the four leading parties.

UK-wide programmes must ensure that, where either SNP or Plaid Cymru or both have distinctive policies on matters decided in the European Parliament these parties are featured in a substantial number of items on such matters in which the UK-wide parties take part. This should not preclude network programmes using SNP and Plaid Cymru spokespeople on other major election news stories.

All parties which are standing a full slate of candidates (ie as many candidates as there are seats available) in one or more of the nations of Great Britain will have – as a minimum – their manifesto launch (or equivalent event) covered on appropriate network TV and radio news programmes. (\* see appendix E)

All parties which are standing candidates, as well as serious independent candidates, will, where appropriate and possible, have their manifesto launches (or some equivalent event) covered online.

#### **Aiv For BBC Scotland:**

Taking account of the factors set out in Ai, the following parties will receive similar levels of coverage:

Labour, SNP, Conservatives and Lib Dems.

Other parties fielding a full slate of candidates in Scotland (i.e. 6) will have – as a minimum – their manifesto launch (or equivalent event) covered on appropriate TV and radio news and current affairs programmes.

(\* see appendix E)

Parties not standing a complete list of candidates, but which are running serious campaigns, should also receive coverage at some stage in the campaign, as should serious independent candidates.

#### **Av For BBC Wales:**

Where coverage relates purely to the European Election or matters decided in the European Parliament – and taking account of the factors set out in Ai - the following parties will receive similar levels of coverage

Labour, Conservative, Plaid Cymru, UKIP and Lib Dems.

Other parties fielding a full slate of candidates in Wales (i.e. 4) will have – as a minimum – their manifesto launch (or equivalent event) covered on appropriate TV and radio news and current affairs programmes.

(\* see appendix E)

Parties not standing a complete list of candidates, but which are running serious campaigns, should also receive coverage at some stage in the campaign, as should serious independent candidates.

#### **Avi For English Regions and Local Radio (and regional results):**

There were some variations in voting patterns and representation across the nine European Parliamentary regions in England at the 2009 European elections. In their own areas, regional and local programmes should take

account of those differing levels of support in the way they cover issues relating to the European election. (see Appendix D for regional breakdown in 2009)

For each party standing a complete list of candidates in their region, as a minimum, each English Region should carry at least two TV items during the campaign - either separate pieces or as part of a longer package. At least one of these series of items should be on the 6.30 programme. Parties not standing a complete list of candidates in their region, but which are running serious campaigns, should also receive coverage at some stage in the campaign, as should serious independent candidates.

Local radio stations should do at least one substantial item during each week of the campaign on each party standing a complete list of candidates in their region. Parties not standing a complete list of candidates in their region, but which are running serious campaigns, should also receive coverage at some stage in the campaign, as should serious independent candidates.

## East Midlands Scoreboard

[Pre-Election Data](#)

**Turnout: 1228065 (37.1%)**

**Electorate: 3312944**

**Change: -178638 (-6.6%)**

**Seats: 5**

Party	2009				2004			
	Votes	Share%	Seats	Seats Change	Votes	Share	Seats	Adj Seats
Conservative	370275	30.2	2	0	371359	26.4	2	2
Labour	206945	16.9	1	0	294918	21.0	1	1
UK Independence Party	201984	16.4	1	-1	366498	26.1	2	2
Liberal Democrat	151428	12.3	1	1	181964	12.9	1	0
British National Party	106319	8.7	0	0	91860	6.5	0	0
Green	83939	6.8	0	0	76633	5.4	0	0
English Democrats Party	28498	2.3	0	0	0	0.0	0	0
United Kingdom First Party	20561	1.7	0	0	0	0.0	0	0
Christian Party-Christian Peoples Alliance	17907	1.5	0	0	0	0.0	0	0
Socialist Labour Party	13590	1.1	0	0	0	0.0	0	0
NO2EU	11375	0.9	0	0	0	0.0	0	0
Libertas	7882	0.6	0	0	0	0.0	0	0
Jury Team	7362	0.6	0	0	0	0.0	0	0
Elected Members		Party	Rank					
Helmer, Roger		CON	1					
McClarkin, Emma <span style="color: red;">NEW</span>		CON	2					
Willmott, Glenis		LAB	1					
Newton Dunn, William		LD	1					
Clark, Derek		UKIP	1					

**East of England Scoreboard**[Pre-Election Data](#)**Turnout:** 1603340 (37.7%)**Electorate:** 4252669**Change:** 93116 (1.2%)**Seats:** 7

Party	2009				2004			
	Votes	Share%	Seats	Seats Change	Votes	Share	Seats	Adj Seats
Conservative	500331	31.2	3	0	465526	30.8	3	3
UK Independence Party	313921	19.6	2	0	296160	19.6	2	2
Liberal Democrat	221235	13.8	1	0	211378	14.0	1	1
Labour	167833	10.5	1	0	244929	16.2	1	1
Green	141016	8.8	0	0	84068	5.6	0	0
British National Party	97013	6.1	0	0	65557	4.3	0	0
United Kingdom First Party	38185	2.4	0	0	0	0.0	0	0
English Democrats Party	32211	2.0	0	0	26807	1.8	0	0
Christian Party-Christian Peoples Alliance	24646	1.5	0	0	0	0.0	0	0
NO2EU	13939	0.9	0	0	0	0.0	0	0
Socialist Labour Party	13599	0.8	0	0	0	0.0	0	0
Animals Count	13201	0.8	0	0	0	0.0	0	0
Libertas	9940	0.6	0	0	0	0.0	0	0
Independent	9916	0.6	0	0	0	0.0	0	0
Jury Team	6354	0.4	0	0	0	0.0	0	0

Elected Members	Party	Rank
Van Orden, Geoffrey	CON	1
Sturdy, Robert	CON	2
Ford, Victoria <b>NEW</b>	CON	3
Howitt, Richard	LAB	1
Duff, Andrew	LD	1
Campbell Bannerman, David <b>NEW</b>	UKIP	1
Agnew, John <b>NEW</b>	UKIP	2

**London Scoreboard**[Pre-Election Data](#)**Turnout:** 1751296 (33.3%)**Electorate:** 5257624**Change:** -134153 (-4%)**Seats:** 8

Party	2009				2004			
	Votes	Share%	Seats	Seats Change	Votes	Share	Seats	Adj Seats
Conservative	479307	27.4	3	0	504941	26.8	3	3
Labour	372590	21.3	2	0	466584	24.7	3	2
Liberal Democrat	240156	13.7	1	0	288790	15.3	1	1
Green	190589	10.9	1	0	158986	8.4	1	1
UK Independence Party	188440	10.8	1	0	232633	12.3	1	1
British National Party	86420	4.9	0	0	76152	4.0	0	0
Christian Party-Christian Peoples Alliance	51336	2.9	0	0	0	0.0	0	0
Independent	50014	2.9	0	0	0	0.0	0	0
English Democrats Party	24477	1.4	0	0	15945	0.8	0	0
NO2EU	17758	1.0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0
Socialist Labour Party	15306	0.9	0	0	0	0.0	0	0
Libertas	8444	0.5	0	0	0	0.0	0	0
Jury Team	7284	0.4	0	0	0	0.0	0	0
Independent	4918	0.3	0	0	0	0.0	0	0
Socialist Party of GB	4050	0.2	0	0	0	0.0	0	0
Yes 2 Europe	3384	0.2	0	0	0	0.0	0	0
Independent	3248	0.2	0	0	0	0.0	0	0

Independent	1972	0.1	0	0	0	0.0	0	0
Independent	1603	0.1	0	0	0	0.0	0	0

<b>Elected Members</b>	<b>Party</b>	<b>Rank</b>
Tannock, Timothy	CON	1
Kamall, Syed	CON	2
Yannakoudakis, Marina <b>NEW</b>	CON	3
Lambert, Jean	GRN	1
Moraes, Claude	LAB	1
Honeyball, Mary <b>NEW</b>	LAB	2
Ludford, Sarah	LD	1
Batten, Gerard	UKIP	1

## North East Scoreboard

[Pre-Election Data](#)

**Turnout: 589862 (30.4%)**

**Electorate: 1939709**

**Change: -190629 (-10.6%)**

**Seats: 3**

Party	2009				2004			
	Votes	Share%	Seats	Seats Change	Votes	Share	Seats	Adj Seats
Labour	147338	25.0	1	0	266057	34.1	1	1
Conservative	116911	19.8	1	0	144969	18.6	1	1
Liberal Democrat	103644	17.6	1	0	138791	17.8	1	1
UK Independence Party	90700	15.4	0	0	94887	12.2	0	0
British National Party	52700	8.9	0	0	50249	6.4	0	0
Green	34081	5.8	0	0	37247	4.8	0	0
English Democrats Party	13007	2.2	0	0	0	0.0	0	0
Socialist Labour Party	10238	1.7	0	0	0	0.0	0	0
NO2EU	8066	1.4	0	0	0	0.0	0	0
Christian Party-Christian Peoples Alliance	7263	1.2	0	0	0	0.0	0	0
Libertas	3010	0.5	0	0	0	0.0	0	0
Jury Team	2904	0.5	0	0	0	0.0	0	0

  

<b>Elected Members</b>	<b>Party</b>	<b>Rank</b>
Callanan, Martin	CON	1
Hughes, Stephen	LAB	1
Hall, Fiona	LD	1

## North West Scoreboard

[Pre-Election Data](#)

**Turnout: 1651825 (31.7%)**

**Electorate: 5206474**

**Change: -463338 (-9.3%)**

**Seats: 8**

Party	2009				2004			
	Votes	Share%	Seats	Seats Change	Votes	Share	Seats	Adj Seats
Conservative	423174	25.6	3	0	509446	24.1	3	3
Labour	336831	20.4	2	-1	576388	27.3	3	3
UK Independence Party	261740	15.8	1	0	257158	12.2	1	1
Liberal Democrat	235639	14.3	1	0	335063	15.8	2	1
British National Party	132094	8.0	1	1	134959	6.4	0	0
Green	127133	7.7	0	0	117393	5.6	0	0
English Democrats Party	40027	2.4	0	0	34110	1.6	0	0
Socialist Labour Party	26224	1.6	0	0	0	0.0	0	0
Christian Party-Christian Peoples Alliance	25999	1.6	0	0	0	0.0	0	0
NO2EU	23580	1.4	0	0	0	0.0	0	0
Jury Team	8783	0.5	0	0	0	0.0	0	0

Libertas	6980	0.4	0	0	0	0.0	0	0
Independent	3621	0.2	0	0	0	0.0	0	0

<b>Elected Members</b>	<b>Party</b>	<b>Rank</b>
Griffin, Nick <b>NEW</b>	BNP	1
Atkins, Robert	CON	1
Karim, Sajjad	CON	2
Foster, Jacqueline <b>NEW</b>	CON	3
McCarthy, Arlene	LAB	1
Simpson, Brian	LAB	2
Davies, Chris	LD	1
Nuttall, Paul <b>NEW</b>	UKIP	1

## South East Scoreboard

[Pre-Election Data](#)

**Turnout: 2334858 (37.5%)**

**Electorate: 6231875**

**Change: 127441 (0.9%)**

**Seats: 10**

Party	2009				2004			
	Votes	Share%	Seats	Seats Change	Votes	Share	Seats	Adj Seats
Conservative	812288	34.8	4	0	776370	35.2	4	4
UK Independence Party	440002	18.8	2	0	431111	19.5	2	2
Liberal Democrat	330340	14.1	2	0	338342	15.3	2	2
Green	271506	11.6	1	0	173351	7.9	1	1
Labour	192592	8.2	1	0	301398	13.7	1	1
British National Party	101769	4.4	0	0	64877	2.9	0	0
English Democrats Party	52526	2.2	0	0	29126	1.3	0	0
Christian Party-Christian Peoples Alliance	35712	1.5	0	0	0	0.0	0	0
NO2EU	21455	0.9	0	0	0	0.0	0	0
Libertas	16767	0.7	0	0	0	0.0	0	0
Socialist Labour Party	15484	0.7	0	0	0	0.0	0	0
United Kingdom First Party	15261	0.7	0	0	0	0.0	0	0
Jury Team	14172	0.6	0	0	0	0.0	0	0
The Peace Party	9534	0.4	0	0	12572	0.6	0	0
The Roman Party	5450	0.2	0	0	0	0.0	0	0
<b>Elected Members</b>	<b>Party</b>	<b>Rank</b>						
Hannan, Daniel	CON	1						
Ashworth, Richard	CON	2						
Diva, Nirj	CON	3						
Elles, James	CON	4						
Lucas, Caroline	GRN	1						
Skinner, Peter	LAB	1						
Bowles, Sharon	LD	1						
Bearder, Catherine <b>NEW</b>	LD	2						
Farage, Nigel	UKIP	1						
Andreasen, Marta <b>NEW</b>	UKIP	2						

[Pre-Election Data](#)**South West Scoreboard****Turnout: 1549708 (38.8%)****Electorate: 3998479****Change: 101291 (1.1%)****Seats: 6**

Party	2009				2004			
	Votes	Share%	Seats	Seats Change	Votes	Share	Seats	Adj Seats
Conservative	468742	30.2	3	1	457371	31.6	3	2
UK Independence Party	341845	22.1	2	0	326784	22.6	2	2
Liberal Democrat	266253	17.2	1	0	265619	18.3	1	1
Green	144179	9.3	0	0	103821	7.2	0	0
Labour	118716	7.7	0	-1	209908	14.5	1	1
British National Party	60889	3.9	0	0	43653	3.0	0	0
Pensioners Party	37785	2.4	0	0	0	0.0	0	0
English Democrats Party	25313	1.6	0	0	0	0.0	0	0
Christian Party-Christian Peoples Alliance	21329	1.4	0	0	0	0.0	0	0
Mebyon Kernow	14922	1.0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0
Socialist Labour Party	10033	0.6	0	0	0	0.0	0	0
NO2EU	9741	0.6	0	0	0	0.0	0	0
Independent	8971	0.6	0	0	0	0.0	0	0
Libertas	7292	0.5	0	0	0	0.0	0	0
Fair Play Fair Trade Party	7151	0.5	0	0	0	0.0	0	0
Jury Team	5758	0.4	0	0	0	0.0	0	0
Wai D	789	0.1	0	0	0	0.0	0	0

Elected Members	Party	Rank
Chichester, Giles	CON	1
Girling, Julie <b>NEW</b>	CON	2
Fox, Ashley <b>NEW</b>	CON	3
Watson, Graham	LD	1
Colman, Bernard	UKIP	1
Dartmouth, William <b>NEW</b>	UKIP	2

**West Midlands Scoreboard**[Pre-Election Data](#)**Turnout: 1413036 (34.8%)****Electorate: 4056370****Change: -23999 (-1.5%)****Seats: 6**

Party	2009				2004			
	Votes	Share%	Seats	Seats Change	Votes	Share	Seats	Adj Seats
Conservative	396847	28.1	2	0	392937	27.3	3	2
UK Independence Party	300471	21.3	2	1	251366	17.5	1	1
Labour	240201	17.0	1	-1	336613	23.4	2	2
Liberal Democrat	170246	12.0	1	0	197479	13.7	1	1
British National Party	121967	8.6	0	0	107794	7.5	0	0
Green	88244	6.2	0	0	73991	5.1	0	0
English Democrats Party	32455	2.3	0	0	0	0.0	0	0
Christian Party-Christian Peoples Alliance	18784	1.3	0	0	0	0.0	0	0
Socialist Labour Party	14724	1.0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0
NO2EU	13415	0.9	0	0	0	0.0	0	0
Jury Team	8721	0.6	0	0	0	0.0	0	0

Libertas	6961	0.5	0	0	0	0.0	0	0
<b>Elected Members</b>	<b>Party</b>	<b>Rank</b>						
Bradbourn, Philip	CON	1						
Harbour, Malcolm	CON	2						
Cashman, Michael	LAB	1						
Lynne, Liz	LD	1						
Nattrass, Mike	UKIP	1						
Sinclair, Nikki <b>NEW</b>	UKIP	2						

## Yorkshire and The Humber Scoreboard

[Pre-Election Data](#)
**Turnout: 1226180 (32.3%)**
**Electorate: 3792415**
**Change: -347021 (-10%)**
**Seats: 6**

Party	2009				2004			
	Votes	Share%	Seats	Seats Change	Votes	Share	Seats	Adj Seats
Conservative	299802	24.5	2	0	387369	24.6	2	2
Labour	230009	18.8	1	-1	413213	26.3	2	2
UK Independence Party	213750	17.4	1	0	228666	14.5	1	1
Liberal Democrat	161552	13.2	1	0	244607	15.5	1	1
British National Party	120139	9.8	1	1	126538	8.0	0	0
Green	104456	8.5	0	0	90337	5.7	0	0
English Democrats Party	31287	2.6	0	0	24068	1.5	0	0
Socialist Labour Party	19380	1.6	0	0	0	0.0	0	0
Christian Party-Christian Peoples Alliance	16742	1.4	0	0	0	0.0	0	0
NO2EU	15614	1.3	0	0	0	0.0	0	0
Jury Team	7181	0.6	0	0	0	0.0	0	0
Libertas	6268	0.5	0	0	0	0.0	0	0
<b>Elected Members</b>	<b>Party</b>	<b>Rank</b>						
Brons, Andrew <b>NEW</b>	BNP	1						
McMillan-Scott, Edward	CON	1						
Kirkhope, Timothy	CON	2						
McAvan, Linda	LAB	1						
Wallis, Diana	LD	1						
Bloom, Godfrey	UKIP	1						

## Avii Great Britain Full Voting Figures

### RESULTS

SEATS: 72 TURNOUT: 15,625,823 ELECTORATE: 45,315,669

Party	Votes		MEPs	
	Total	%	Total	+/-
Conservative	4,198,394	27.7 (+1.0)	*26	+1
UK Independence Party	2,498,226	16.5 (+0.3)	13	+1
Labour	2,381,760	15.7	13	-5

Party	Votes		MEPs		
	Total	%	Total	+/-	
		(-6.9)			
Liberal Democrats	2,080,613	13.7	11	+1	
		(-1.2)			
Green Party	1,303,745	8.6	2	0	
		(+2.4)			
British National Party	943,598	6.2	2	+2	
		(+1.3)			
Scottish National Party	321,007	2.1	2	0	
		(+0.7)			
Plaid Cymru	126,702	0.8	1	0	
		(-0.1)			
Sinn Féin	–	–	1	0	
Democratic Unionist Party	–	–	1	0	
English Democrats	279,801	1.8	0	0	
		(+1.1)			
Christian Party	249,493	1.6	0	0	
		(+1.6)			
"Proclaiming Christ's Lordship"***					
Socialist Labour Party	173,115	1.1	0	0	
		(+1.1)			
No2EU - Yes to Democracy	153,236	1.0	0	0	
		(+1.0)			
Jury Team	78,569	0.5	0	0	
		(+0.5)			
United Kingdom First	74,007	0.5	0	0	
		(+0.5)			
Libertas	73,544	0.5	0	0	
		(+0.5)			
Independent - Jan Jananayagam	50,014	0.3	0	0	
		(+0.3)			
Pensioners Party	37,785	0.2	0	0	
		(+0.0)			
Mebyon Kernow	14,922	0.1	0	0	
		(+0.1)			
Animals Count	13,201	0.1	0	0	
		(+0.1)			
Scottish Socialist Party	10,404	0.1	0	0	
		(-0.3)			
Independent - Duncan	10,189	0.1	0	0	
		(+0.1)			

Party	Votes		MEPs	
	Total	%	Total	+/-
Robertson				
Independent - Peter Rigby	9,916	0.1 (+0.1)	0	0
The Peace Party	9,534	0.1 (+0.0)	0	0
Independent - Katie Hopkins	8,971	0.1 (+0.1)	0	0
Fair Play Fair Trade Party	7,151	0.0 (+0.0)	0	0
The Roman Party	5,450	0.0 (+0.0)	0	0
Independent - Steven Cheung	4,918	0.0 (+0.0)	0	0
Socialist Party of Great Britain	4,050	0.0 (+0.0)	0	0
Independent - Francis Apaloo	3,621	0.0 (+0.0)	0	0
Yes 2 Europe	3,384	0.0 (+0.0)	0	0
Independent - Sohale Rahman	3,248	0.0 (+0.0)	0	0
Independent - Gene Alcantara	1,972	0.0 (+0.0)	0	0
Independent - Haroon Saad	1,603	0.0 (+0.0)	0	0
Wai D	789	0.0 (+0.0)	0	0

### Aviii Lists of candidates on BBC Online

For the European elections, BBC News Online, the Nations' and English Regions' websites (in close liaison with each other to ensure a consistent BBC wide approach) will publish a complete list of candidates in each European region, which can be referred to by programmes.

**APPENDIX B****European Election In Northern Ireland 2014****Bi European Parliamentary Election in Northern Ireland**

In the European election, Northern Ireland has a different electoral system from the rest of the UK – Single Transferable Vote. For this reason, all parties, irrespective of size and electoral support, have normally fielded only a single candidate for the three seats available.

The level of coverage given to political parties in Northern Ireland is based on:

their performance at the last equivalent election (i.e. the 2009 European election) in terms of representation and share of the vote

their performance in subsequent elections

other evidence of current electoral support.

**Bii Past Election Results****Northern Ireland – 2009 European Election**

Electorate: **1,141,979**  
Turnout: **488,891 (42.81%)**

**Party share of first preference votes****Northern Ireland Scoreboard**[Pre-Election Data](#)

**Turnout: 488,891 (42.81%)**  
**Electoral Quota 121,144**

**Electorate: 1,141,979**  
**Seats: 3**

2009								
	Party	Stage 1			Stage 2		Stage 3	
		Votes	Share%	Change	Transfer	Total	Transfer	Total
Steven Agnew	Green	15,764	3.3	+2.4	-	-	-	-
Jim Allister	TUV	66,197	13.7		4,284	70,481	-	-
Bairbre de Brún	SF	126,184	26.0	-0.3	-	-	-	-
Diane Dodds	DUP	88,346	18.2	-13.8	2,914	91,260	24,462	115,722
Alban Maginness	SDLP	78,489	16.2	+0.3	16,325	94,814	2,614	97,428
Jim Nicholson	UCUNF	82,893	17.1	+0.5	11,392	94,285	37,942	132,227
Ian James Parsley	AP	26,699	5.5		-	-	-	-
Elected Members		Party	Elected					
Bairbre de Brún		SF	Stage 1					
Jim Nicholson		UCUNF	Stage 3					
Diane Dodds		DUP	Stage 3					

### **Biii Party Coverage for BBC Northern Ireland and broadcasts across the UK**

This appendix to the guidelines applies primarily to coverage by BBC Northern Ireland, but applies with equal rigour where network programmes are covering the Northern Ireland aspect of the European election.

Taking account of the factors set out in Bi, the following parties will receive similar levels of coverage:

the DUP, Sinn Fein, the SDLP and the UUP (who stood under the title: “Ulster Conservatives and Unionists” in 2009),

The Alliance Party and the TUV have also received significant levels of support and these parties will receive similar coverage proportionate to the larger four parties.

Other parties which have representation in the European Parliament, the House of Commons or the Northern Ireland Assembly should receive some coverage, proportionate to the larger parties. These include the Green Party, UKIP and NI21.

Other parties which stand a candidate, as well as independent candidates, will receive – as a minimum – coverage of their manifesto launch (or equivalent event).

### **Biv List of Candidates on BBC Online**

For the European elections, BBC News Online and BBC Northern Ireland websites (in close liaison with each other to ensure a consistent BBC wide approach) will publish a complete list of candidates in Northern Ireland which can be referred to by programmes.

## **APPENDIX C**

### **Local Elections in England**

#### **Ci Party Coverage for Local Elections in England**

The three largest parties in relation to the English local elections are Labour, the Conservatives and the Lib Dems.

In any coverage relating primarily to the council elections, these three parties will receive similar coverage.

There is some variation in support for other parties and independents in parts of England and regional and local output should take account of differing levels of past and current electoral strength in their areas.

Across England, the Green Party has some support in those parts of local government up for election and should receive some coverage proportionate to the larger parties. At last year's local elections, UKIP won substantial electoral support and representation and should also, therefore, receive a similarly proportionate level of coverage.

Other parties which are standing candidates in at least one sixth of the seats available (either in England as a whole for network programmes or in particular areas for local and regional output), will receive some proportionate coverage.

Appropriate network news and current affairs programmes will cover, as a minimum, the manifesto launch (or equivalent event relating to the council elections) of all parties which are standing candidates in at least one sixth of the seats being contested.

#### **Cii Independents**

Independent candidates attract significant levels of support in many local elections and the audience will expect that to be reflected in relevant coverage. Independent candidates should be given proportionate coverage (up to similar levels to the larger parties in some wards or councils), where they have demonstrated:

significant previous electoral support (eg are incumbents)  
there is evidence of significant current electoral support.

In addition, there will be circumstances in which there is a possibility of No Overall Control within a council, meaning it will be editorially appropriate for any one or more independent candidates to receive more coverage, for instance, in the context of "coalition-building."

Relevant output should also take into account the political context in which candidates are standing: for instance, where an Independent candidate indicates some support for a political party, or where a group of independents are acting together, whether or not on a common manifesto; the objective will be to ensure the audience is given clear and accurate information and that due weight is applied to the various political perspectives.

Further advice on coverage of independents is available from the Chief Adviser, Politics.

### **Ciii Lists of Candidates in Local Elections**

For the local elections, where there is a report featuring candidates or parties in an electoral area (a ward or a whole council), it is the responsibility of the programme concerned to provide details of links to a website with a full and accurate list of candidates, or for that list to be part of the report.

## **APPENDIX D**

### **Local Election in Northern Ireland**

#### **Di Party Coverage for Local Elections in Northern Ireland**

Local elections were last contested in Northern Ireland in 2011 on the old local council structure. Parties which gained a substantial share of the vote and of representation were:

the DUP, Sinn Fein, the UUP and the SDLP.

In any coverage relating primarily to the council elections, these four parties will receive similar coverage.

The Alliance Party also received significant support and representation and should receive some coverage proportionate to the larger parties.

Other parties which are standing candidates in at least one sixth of the seats available will receive some proportionate coverage.

#### **Dii Independents**

Independent candidates attracted significant levels of support in previous local elections and the audience will expect that to be reflected in relevant coverage. Independent candidates should be given proportionate coverage (up to similar levels to the larger parties in some wards or councils), where they have demonstrated:

- significant previous electoral support (eg are incumbents)

- there is evidence of significant current electoral support.

In addition, there will be circumstances in which there is a possibility of No Overall Control within a council, meaning it will be editorially appropriate for any one or more independent candidates to receive more coverage, for instance, in the context of “coalition-building.”

Relevant output should also take into account the political context in which candidates are standing: for instance, where an Independent candidate indicates some support for a political party, or where a group of independents are acting together, whether or not on a common manifesto; the objective will be to ensure the audience is given clear and accurate information and that due weight is applied to the various political perspectives.

Further advice on coverage of independents is available from the Chief Adviser, Politics.

### **Diii Lists of Candidates in Local Elections**

For the local elections, where there is a report featuring candidates or parties in an electoral area (a ward or a whole council), it is the responsibility of the programme concerned to provide details of links to a website with a full and accurate list of candidates, or for that list to be part of the report.

### **Appendix E:**

#### **List of Appropriate Programmes for TV and Radio (tbc)**